

U.S. Patent Application for ILLUMINATED CAPS
FOR CONTAINERS AND SYSTEMS FOR ENERGIZING THEM
Inventor: James R. Zarian

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A cap for a container, comprising:
 - a) A light source contained within the cap, and
 - b) A pair of conductors adapted to be in contact with a source of current exterior to the cap, the conductors being disposed so as to conduct current to illuminate the light source when they are in contact with the source of current exterior to the cap.
2. The cap of claim 1, wherein the light source comprises a light emitting diode.
3. A holder for a container having a cap of claim 1, wherein the holder comprises:
 - a) Means for detachably contacting the cap, and
 - b) Conductors providing a source of current to the pair of conductors in the cap when the cap is in contact with the holder.
4. The holder of claim 3, wherein the means for detachably contacting the cap has spring action for detachably gripping the cap.
5. The holder of claim 3, further comprising:
 - a) A base containing an energy source; and
 - b) A stem supporting the means for detachably contacting the cap; wherein the conductors form an electrical circuit between the energy source and the pair of conductors in the cap when the cap is in contact with the holder.

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6. The holder of claim 3 having multiple portions for use with at least a multiplicity of containers having such caps, wherein
 - a) there are a plurality of similar means for detachably contacting the cap, and each means has a cross section substantially in the form of a pair of parentheses, and wherein
 - b) the means for detachably contacting the cap are so disposed that each container including its cap can slide from one portion of the holder to the next and fall into place at predetermined intervals,whereby a group of containers would be lit and as one container is removed, another container would fall into place and remain lit.
7. A display rack, comprising means for directing light onto the top of each of a plurality of containers having clear cap.
8. The display rack of claim 7, wherein the means for directing light is a plurality of light emitting diodes disposed at positions immediately above locations where a container cap is intended to be located.
9. A method for displaying product comprising
 - a) Providing a multiplicity of product containers, each having a cap; and
 - b) Loading the multiplicity of product containers into a rack having a multiplicity of locations for containers, wherein the rack has (i) a light emitting diode above each of a plurality of locations for the product containers and disposed to direct light onto the cap, wherein the cap is

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translucent; or (ii) a plurality of means for providing a source of current to
the conductors of a cap of claim 1,
whereby the caps of a plurality of the product containers are illuminated.